

Message Text

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43

ACTION FBO-05

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ISO-00 A-01 L-02 SY-04 SSO-00 /019 W

----- 095407

O 101630Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY ACCRA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6433

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E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ABLD GH

SUBJ: NEW CHANCERY SITE

1. ACTING DCM CALLED ON DIR FOR EUROPE AND AMERICAS LAMPTEY FEB 10 TO POINT OUT FEB 15 DEADLINE GIVEN IN REFTEL. AIDE-MEMOIRE LEFT WITH LAMPTEY REITERATED POINTS REQUIRED IN NOTE FROM MFA AND ADDED INFORMATION ON MSG PLOT.

2. DESPITE REPEATED REMINDERS TO DEPARTMENT AND TO MFA IT IS CLEAR MATTER HAS NOT PROGRESSED MUCH BEYOND POINT REPORTED IN EMBASSY'S LAST TELEGRAM TO DEPARTMENT. MATTER HAS NOT RPT NOT YET BEEN PRESENTED TO NATIONAL REDEMPTION COUNCIL FOR ITS APPROVAL. NEXT MEETING OF NRC IS FEB 19. LAMPTEY WAS PRESSED TO GIVE ASSURANCE, PREFERABLY WRITTEN BUT ACCEPTABLY ORAL, THAT MATTER WOULD INDEED BE ON FEB 19 AGENDA. HE SAID HE WOULD TRY BUT WAS NOT ENCOURAGING THAT IT COULD BE DONE. ADDITIONAL COMPLICATIONS ARE DEPARTURE FEB 11 OF COMMISSIONER BAAH FROM COUNTRY AND CONTINUING ABSENCE FROM GHANA OF NRC SECRETARY DEBRAH. DEBRAH MAY RETURN IN NEXT FEW DAYS AND WE MAY TRY TO REACH HIM IN EFFORT TO GET MATTER ON FEB 19 AGENDA.

3. WE NOTE SUBTRACTION ERROR IN PARAGRAPH 3 REFTEL. WE HAVE PROVIDED FIGURES TO LAMPTEY ON STRICTLY INFORMAL BASIS AS HE REQUIRES SOME DATA TO SUPPLEMENT HIS MINISTRY'S BRIEF TO NRC.

4. ARE WE CORRECT IN ASSUMING NEGOTIATION FOR ADDITIONAL PLOT FOR MSG HOUSING COULD PROCEED AFTER FEB 15 AS SEPARATE ARRANGEMENT AND WOULD STILL SERVE TO REDUCE FINAL AMOUNT PAYABLE BY GOG?

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NOTE ALSO THERE IS STRUCTURE ON LOT SUGGESTED FOR MSG HOUSE,

WHICH WOULD INCREASE APPRAISAL OF LOT.

5. WE FRANKLY ARE NOT HOPEFUL AT ALL THAT FEB 15 DEADLINE CAN
BE MET AND CONSIDER IT UNLIKELY FEB 19 WILL SEE MATTER ON
AGENDA AND APPROVED BY NRC, ESPECIALLY IN ABSENCE BAAH. WHAT
WOULD NEXT MOVE THEN BE?
BLACK

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